



***United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York***

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**FORMER TARRYTOWN POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED TO 60 MONTHS'  
IMPRISONMENT FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AND  
POSSESSION OF A MACHINE GUN**

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ANTHONY RYPKA, JR., a former police officer and volunteer fireman in Tarrytown, New York, was sentenced today by United States District Judge COLLEEN MCMAHON to 60 months in prison on child pornography and gun charges. On September 16, 2008, following a one-week jury trial in Manhattan federal court, RYPKA was found guilty of receipt and distribution of child pornography, possession of child pornography, and possession of a submachine gun. As shown by the evidence at trial:

The investigation began in June 2006 when AOL reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children ("NCMEC") that a subscriber, whose screen name and email address AOL provided to NCMEC, had sent two emails embedded with images that AOL had previously identified as child pornography or child erotica. AOL records showed that the account associated with the screen name was subscribed to by RYPKA at an address in Tarrytown, New York. In September 2006, New York State Police Investigators searched RYPKA's residence and recovered several pieces of computer equipment, including a desktop computer and two thumb drives. An examination of the computer equipment by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office revealed an extensive and carefully organized collection of both adult and child pornography, including folders on the thumb drives labeled by category of pornography. Images of child pornography were primarily found in three folders entitled "family," "family1," and "teens." Emails with attached images of child pornography, as well as two videos of child pornography, were also found on RYPKA's computer equipment.

Following the search, detectives from the Tarrytown Police Department went to RYPKA's house to take possession of his

firearms. Among a number of firearms the detectives recovered from a gun safe in the basement of his house was an fully automatic Thompson submachine gun. The Thompson submachine gun was not registered to RYPKA in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

RYPKA was ultimately found guilty of one count of distributing and receiving child pornography; one count of possessing child pornography; one count of possessing a machine gun; and one count of possessing a firearm not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record. He was sentenced to concurrent 60 months terms of imprisonment on the two child pornography counts and to time served on the two machine gun counts. In addition to the 60 month prison term, RYPKA was sentenced to a term of 5 years' supervised release.

Mr. DASSIN praised the investigative work of the New York State Police, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney NICHOLAS L. McQUAID is in charge of the prosecution.

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